

10/664,834

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**REMARKS**

Claims 1, 2-18 and 20 are currently pending in the subject application and are presently under consideration. Applicant's representative notes with appreciation the indication that claims 3, 5, 6, 11, 19, and 20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, independent claims 1, 13 and 14 have been amended to recite limitations deemed allowable by the Examiner. In addition, dependent claims 5 and 20 have been amended for consistent numeric referencing. Claims 3 and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. It is believed that independent claims 1, 13 and 14 and associated dependent claims are now in condition for allowance. A version of all pending claims is found at pages 2-4.

Favorable reconsideration of the subject patent application is respectfully requested in view of the comments and amendments herein.

**I. Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-10, and 12-18 Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)**

Claims 1, 2, 4-10, and 12-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kannan, *et al.* (U.S. 5,511,205). Applicant's representative respectfully requests withdrawal of this reject for at least the following reasons. Claims 1, 13 and 14 have been amended to recite subject matter deemed allowable by the Examiner. Accordingly, this rejection is moot and should be withdrawn.

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CONCLUSION

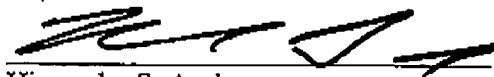
The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance in view of the above comments and amendments. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

In the event any fees are due in connection with this document, the Commissioner is authorized to charge those fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1063.

Should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would be helpful to expedite favorable prosecution, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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